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# Talbert Family Papers, 1872-1939
# Mss. B79-4

**Call Number**: B79-4
**Creator**: Talbert Family.
**Title**: Talbert Family Papers
**Date(s)**: 1872-1939
**Language(s)**: English
**Location**: Manuscript room
**Size**: 2 boxes (1.0 linear ft.)

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**Acquisition Information**: 79-52
**Donor**: Elmer Baumer, antiques dealer, Clarence, NY
**Restrictions**: None
**Preferred Citation**: Buffalo History Museum Research Library, B79-4, Talbert Family Papers.
**Processing Information**: Finding aid reprocessed/retroconverted by Peter Nelson. Updated by Amy Miller.
**Notes**:
**Collection Access**: Researchers wishing to access this collection must apply for a Scholar Pass and present valid photo ID upon arrival to the library.

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**Biographical / Historical Note**:

Mary B. Talbert (1866-1923) was an early African American leader, graduate of Oberlin College and the University of Buffalo, hosted the Niagara Movement of Colored People (later to become the N.A.A.C.P.) in Niagara Falls, and president of the Federated Negro Women's Clubs of the United States, previously known as the National Association of Colored Women (NACW).

**Scope and Content Note**:

Correspondence, 1923-1933, of Sarah May Talbert Keelan, concerning her musical compositions and family matters; letters, 1893-1898, to William H. Talbert, her father, concerning Grand Island property; letters, 1918, to Mrs. [Mary?] Talbert from Frederick and Archibald Grimke, concerning the Frederick Douglass home; mss. and printed musical scores by Sarah M. Talbert Keelan; and legal papers concerning the estates of Robert Talbert and Anna Maria Talbert.

**Arrangement**:

Organized into five series:

I. Transcripts of testimony in the matter of the probate of the will of Anna M. Talbert, 1896-1897.
II. Proceedings in Surrogate's Court, Erie County, in the matter of the judicial settlement of the accounts of Anna M. Talbert, 1894.

III. Miscellaneous legal documents, 1872-1927.
IV. Family correspondence, 1893- 1933.
V. Miscellaneous family materials.

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**Subject Headings**:

African American women New York (State)
Composers New York (State) Buffalo
Deeds
Douglass, Frederick, 1818-1895
Grand Island (N.Y.)
Grimke, Archibald Henry, 1849-1930
Grimke, Frederick
Keelan, Sarah T. (Sarah May Talbert)
Scores

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**Box and Folder List**

**BOX 1**

Series I: In the Matter of the Probate of the Will of Anna Maria Talbert - Transcripts of Testimony (1896-1897).

Folder 1: Index to witnesses
Folder 2: James Gill, Dec. 3, 1896
Folder 3: Mary Talbert, Dec. 4, 1896
Folder 4: Joseph E. Knauber, Dec. 4, 1896
Folder 5: Mary Talbert, Dec. 9-10, 1896
Folder 6: William H.H. Talbert, Dec. 10, 1896
Folder 7: Medford A. Farrington, Dec. 15, 1896
Folder 8: Charles M. Pierce et al., Dec. 15, 1896
Folder 9: Dr. Joseph T. Cook, Dec. 24, 1896
Folder 10: Dr. Joseph T. Cook, Feb. 23, 1897
Folder 11: William H. H. Talbert, April 12, 1897
Mary Talbert, April 12, 1897
Ada Jordan, April 12, 1897
Folder 12: Jesse E. Nash, Dec. 3, 1897
Folder 13: John U. Wayland, Dec. 23, 1897

Undated transcripts:
Folder 14: Mame Aikerns, Mary Dawson
Folder 15: Henry Evans
Folder 16: Della Ford
Folder 17: Martha Harris, Horace E. Story

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**BOX 2**

Folder 1: Agnes Johnson
Folder 2: Flora M. Lindsay
Folder 3: Mary Talbert
Folder 4: Mary Thompson
Folder 5: Godfrey Wende

Series II: "In the Matter of the Judicial Settlement of the Accounts of Anna Maria Talbert, as Administratrix, etc., of Robert Talbert, Deceased" - Proceedings in Surrogate's Court, Erie County, April 17 - July 10, 1894. [Folder 6]

Series III: Miscellaneous Legal Documents, 1872-1927.

Folder 7: Mortgage: Peyton Harris to William G. Fargo, filed Mar. 13, 1872.

Bond: Anna M. Talbert, Robert Talbert and Martha C. Phillips to Erie County Savings Bank, Nov.11, 1882.

Certificate of Title: Anna M. Talbert to Erie County Savings Bank, Nov. 11, 1882.

Discharge of Mortgage: Erie County Savings Bank to Anna M. Talbert, Robert Talbert et al., filed Mar. 6, 1888.

Power of Attorney: Anna M. Talbert, Ada Jordan, Robert P. Talbert and Walter Talbert, to William H. Talbert, Feb. 25, 1893.

Agreement (copy): William H. H. Talbert and Emeline Coy, June 14, 1897.

Summons and Complaint (2 copies): Walter T. Talbert, Ada E. T. Jordan, and Robert P. Talbert vs. William H. Talbert, individually and as Executor of the Last Will and Testament of Anna M. Talbert,

Deceased, Mary B. Talbert, Ruth Elizabeth Jordan, Anna Jane Jordan, Edith Marion Jordan, Sarah May Talbert, Emeline Coy, and Henry C. Felthousen, Mar. 4, 1899.

Citation for Judicial Settlement: William H. H. Talbert as

Executor of the Will of Anna M. Talbert, Jan. 29, 1912.

Citation (copy): In the Matter of the Estate of Anna M. Talbert, Deceased, Jan. 29, 1912.

Copy of Answer: In the Matter of the Estate of Anna M. Talbert, Deceased, Feb. 6, 1912.

Last Will and Testament,: Sarah Talbert Keelan, June 9, 1920.

Deed: William T. Corner and Ertina Corner, his wife, Clara Isabelle Bethune, and Kate Corner to William H. H. Talbert and Mary Talbert, his wife, May 4, 1923.

Sale Contract: William T. Corner and Clara Isabelle Bethune to Mary B. Talbert, Purchaser, May 4, 1923.

Deed: Kate Corner to William H. H. Talbert and Mary B. Talbert, his wife, May 29, 1923.

Affidavit – Surrogate's Court: In the Matter of the Real Estate at and Known as 515 Michigan Avenue, Mar. 28, 1927.

Report: Surrogate's Court, Erie County. In the Matter of the Judicial Settlement of the Accounts of Anna Maria Talbert, as Administratrix, etc., of Robert Talbert, Deceased, John G. Cloak, Referee. [n.d.]

In the matter of the petition of Walter S. Talbert, Erie County Surrogate's Court, copy order, Feb. 13, 1894.

In the matter of the petition of Walter S. Talbert , one of the children, heir's at law and next of kin of Robert Talbert, deceased, Erie County Surrogate's Court, copy of show cause why attachment wou1d not issue, March 5, 1894.

In the matter of the estate of Robert Talbert, deceased, Erie County Surrogate's Court, citation, March 15, 1894.

Lease: Sarah Talbert and John E. Jones, Buffalo, N.Y., Nov. 28, 1930.

Series IV: Family Correspondence, 1893—1933

Folder 8: ALS, (Aunt) Caroline Phillips to William Talbert, San Francisco, May 17, 1893, 3pp.

ALS, (Cousin) James R Phillips to Cousin William [Talbert), San Francisco, July 22, 1894, 4kpp.

ALS, David F. Day to Anna M. Talbert, Buffalo, New York, August lo, 1894, 2pp.

ALS, (Aunt) Caroline Phillips to William H. Talbert, San Francisco, May 11, 1896, 4pp.

ALS, (Cousin) James R. Phillips to (Cousin) William [H. Talbert], San Francisco, April 13, 1897, 3pp.

ALS, (Cousin) James R. Phillips to (Cousin) William [H. Talbert], San Francisco, August 13, 1897, 4pp.

ALS, (Cousin) C James R. Phillips J to (Cousin) William H. Talbert, San Francisco, February 23, 1898, lp. (Letter is incomplete).

ALS, (Cousin) Charles R. Persons to (Cousin) William H. Talbert, San Francisco, June 19, 1898, 2pp.

TLS, Francis J. Grimke to the National Association of Colored Women, Washington, D.C., July 1, 1918, 9pp.

ALS, Archibald H. Grimke to Mary B. Talbert, Washington, D.C., September 24, 1918, 1p.

TLS, J.R. Salmon to Sarah T. Keelan, Court of Chancery of New Jersey, Trenton, N.J., September 23, 1923, 1p.

Certified copy: Final Decree of Divorce, Chancery Court of New Jersey, Harry S. and Sarah T. Keelan, April 20, 1923, 2pp.

T.L., (Copy): W [illiam] [H.] [Talbert] to Sarah [ H. Talbert], n.p., October 16, 1925, 1p.

A.L.S., Sarah [Keelan] to [William H. Talbert], New York, N.Y., November 29, 1925, 4 pp. w/enclosure.

T.L., Carl Fischer Inc. to Sarah Talbert, Chicago, Illinois, April 4, 1927, lp.

T.L., Carl Fischer Inc. to Sarah Talbert, Chicago, Illinois, April 16, 1927, 1p.

T.L.S., Theodore Presser Co. to Sarah Talbert, Philadelphia, Pa., June 22, 1927, 1p.

A.L.S., Elizabeth [Brown Talbert] to Sarah May [Talbert], Empire State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, Brooklyn, New York, June 29, 1927, 1p.

A.L.S., Elizabeth [Brown Talbert] to Sarah [M. Talbert], Brooklyn, New York, July 9, 1927, 2pp.

A.L.S., Yvette Keelan to (Mother) [Sarah M. Talbert], Buffalo, New York, July 9, 1927, 2pp.

A.L.S., Yvette Keelan to (Mother) Sarah M. Talbert, Buffalo, New York, July 14(?), 1927, 2pp.

A.L.S., Elizabeth B. Talbert to Sarah C May Talbert), Buffalo, New York, July 20, 1927, 2pp.

T.L.S., E.C. Hartwell to Sarah Talbert, Buffalo, New York, September 8, 1927, 1p.

T.L., Theodore Presser Co. to Sarah M. Talbert, Philadelphia, Pa., May 21, 1928, 1p.

T.L., Theodore Presser Co. to Sarah M. Talbert, Philadelphia, Pa., July 16, 1928, 1p.

T.L.S., H.L. Brown to Sarah M. Talbert, Philadelphia, Pa., August 10, 1928, 1p.

T.L., Theodore Presser Co. to Sarah M. Talbert, Philadelphia, Pa., September 18, 1928, 1p.

T.L.S., W[illiam] H. Talbert to E. Bachert, [Buffalo, New York), Nov. 5, 1928, 1p.

A.L,S. - Same as above.

T,L.S., Warner W. Westervelt Jr. to Sarah M. Talbert, Hackensack, New Jersey, October 8, 1929, 1p.

T.L.S., Warner W. Weetervelt Jr. to Sarah M. Talbert, Hackensack, New Jersey, October 30, 1929, 1p.

T.L., Theodore Presser Co. to Sarah [M.) Talbert, Philadelphia, Pa., March 20, 1931, 1p.

T.L.S, W.N. DeBerry to Sarah Talbert Keelan, Springfield, Mass., Dec. 17, 1931, 1p.

T.L.S, J. Edward Nash to Sarah M. Talbert, Buffalo, N.Y., June 19, 1933, 1p. w/enclosure.

ALS-Alyce Fraser to Sarah M. Talbert, New York City, Sept. 24, 1927, 2 pp.

ALS Sarah M Ta1bert to Harry R. Montgomery, Buffalo, N.Y., May 11,1928, 6pp.

ALS "Aunt Emma" to Sarah May [Talbert], Ka1ispell? Montana, June7, 1928, 4pp.

ALS Sarah May Talbert to Clerk of Probate Court, New York, N.Y., July7, 1928, 1p with reply.

ALS International Council of Women to [Sarah M. Talbert?], London, England, Sept. 1928, 2pp.

ALS Sarah Talbert to unknown (mutilated original), New York, N. Y., May 10, 1929, 2pp.

Handwritten List o! Officers—New York State Federation of Women's Clubs, n.d., 2pp.

Series V: Miscellaneous Items.

Folder 9: Program: Ceremonies at the Presentation of the Spingarn

Medal, March 22, 1931.

Alumni Quarterly, New England Conservatory of Music, January, 1938.

Ditto: Nov. 1938
Ditto: Feb. 1939

Pistol Permit: State of New York to William H. Talbert, Oct. 15, 1914.

Program: Mary B. Talbert Memorial Service, Michigan Avenue Baptist Church, Buffalo, New York, Oct. 13, 1929.

Biographical Sketch of Robert Talbert, n.d., 1p.

Typed Memo: Colored Democratic Association of Erie County, n.d., 1p.

(2) copies: Manuscript sheet music: "I Believe In You", Sarah Talbert, 1928.

(2) copies: Printed sheet music: "I believe In You", Sarah Talbert, 1928.

(1) copy: Printed sheet music: "My Little Sweeties Gone", Sarah Talbert Keelan, 1920.

(4) copies: Printed sheet music: “Pickaninny Sandman”, Sarah Talbert, 1927.

(2) copies: Manuscript copies: “Pickaninny Sandman”, Sarah Talbert, 1927.

Business Card: Sarah M. Talbert, Graduate of New England Conservatory of Music. .

Invitation: Dedication of the Memorial Home (Frederick Douglass) Aug. 12, 1922. 2 p.

Invitation and ticket: The Pioneers and Daughters of the Golden West Club, honoring Mrs. Mary B. Talbert in Portland, Oregon, n.d., 1 p.

Diary: William H. Talbert, 1881.

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Reprocessed/retroconverted:
Peter Nelson
Updated:
Amy Miller